

1 EDWARD A. RUTTENBERG (State Bar No. 67378)
LEOPOLD, PETRICH & SMITH, P.C.
2 2049 Century Park East, Suite 3110
Los Angeles, California 90067-3274
3 Tel: (310) 277-3333 • Fax: (310) 277-7444
E-Mail: eruttenberg@lpsla.com

4 Attorneys for Defendant
5 AVRIL LAVIGNE

6
7 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
8 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **OAKLAND DIVISION**
10

11
12 TOMMY DUNBAR and JAMES
GANGWER,

13 Plaintiffs,
14

15 v.

16 LUCASZ GOTTWALD (aka Dr. Luke),
17 AVRIL LAVIGNE, KASZ MONEY
PUBLISHING, AVRIL LAVIGNE
18 PUBLISHING LLC, ALMO MUSIC
CORP., RCA RECORDS, and APPLE,
INC.,

19 Defendants.
20

CASE NO.: C 07-2758 WDB

**ANSWER TO COMPLAINT BY
DEFENDANT AVRIL LAVIGNE**

21
22 For herself alone and for no other defendant, defendant AVRIL LAVIGNE
23 (“Answering Defendant”), by her undersigned attorneys, admits, denies and otherwise
24 responds as follows to the Complaint filed against her by plaintiffs TOMMY
25 DUNBAR and JAMES GANGWER (“Plaintiffs”) in the above-entitled matter:
26

27 1. Answering Defendant admits that Plaintiffs have filed a civil action
28 against her for alleged copyright infringement, in which they demand jury trial to the

1 extent provided in Fed. R. Civ. P. 38(a). Except as expressly admitted, Answering
2 Defendant denies generally and specifically each allegation contained in Paragraph 1
3 of the Complaint.

4 5 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6
7 2. Answering Defendant admits that the Court has subject matter
8 jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a). Except as
9 expressly admitted, Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each
10 allegation contained in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint to the extent that it applies to
11 her, and denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or information each allegation
12 contained in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint to the extent that it applies to other
13 defendants.

14
15 3. Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each allegation
16 contained in Paragraph 3 of the Complaint to the extent that it applies to her, and
17 denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or information each allegation contained in
18 Paragraph 3 to the extent that it applies to other defendants.

19 20 **THE PARTIES**

21
22 4. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
23 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 4 of the Complaint.

24
25 5. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
26 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 5 of the Complaint.

1 6. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
2 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 6 of the Complaint.

3
4 7. Answering Defendant admits that she is an individual who resides in Los
5 Angeles County, California. Except as expressly admitted, Answering Defendant
6 denies generally and specifically each allegation contained in Paragraph 7 of the
7 Complaint.

8
9 8. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
10 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 8 of the Complaint.

11
12 9. Answering Defendant admits that defendant AVRIL LAVIGNE
13 PUBLISHING LLC is a limited liability company, organized under the laws of the
14 state of Nevada. Except as expressly admitted, Answering denies generally and
15 specifically each allegation contained in Paragraph 7 of the Complaint.

16
17 10. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
18 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint.

19
20 11. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
21 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint.

22
23 12. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or
24 information each allegation contained in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint.

25
26 13. Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each allegation
27 contained in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint.

CLAIM FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT
(Against All Defendants)

14. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or information each allegation contained in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint.

15. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or information each allegation contained in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint.

16. Answering Defendant denies for lack of sufficient knowledge or information each allegation contained in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint.

17. Answering Defendant admits that Plaintiffs have not expressly authorized her to exploit protectible expression from the song "I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend," but Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically that she did so, and further denies generally and specifically that anyone holds any rights in any portion of the song "I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend" other than in its protectible expression. Except as expressly admitted, Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each other allegation contained in Paragraph 17 of the Complaint.

18. Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each allegation contained in Paragraph 18 of the Complaint.

19. Answering Defendant denies generally and specifically each allegation contained in Paragraph 19 of the Complaint.

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Claim Stated)

20. Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a claim for relief against Answering Defendant.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(17 U.S.C. § 412)

21. Plaintiffs' claims for relief are barred and/or limited by the provisions of 17 U.S.C. § 412.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(17 U.S.C. § 411(a))

22. Plaintiffs' action is barred and/or limited by the provisions of 17 U.S.C. § 411(a).

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unclean Hands)

23. Plaintiffs' action is barred in whole or in part by reason of plaintiffs' unclean hands.

//

//

//

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack of Standing)

24. Plaintiffs' action is barred in whole or in part because one or both plaintiffs lack standing to prosecute such action.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Fair Use)

25. Plaintiffs' action is barred in whole or in part by the doctrine of fair use, to the extent any such use occurred, which use Answering Defendant denies but here assumes merely for the sake of argument.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(First Amendment)

26. Plaintiffs' action is barred in whole or in part because, to the extent any such use occurred, which use Answering Defendant denies but here assumes merely for the sake of argument, the purported use of plaintiffs' purportedly copyrightable materials on which their claims rest constituted a use protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution,

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(*De Minimis* Use)

27. Plaintiffs' action is barred by the doctrine of de minimis use to the extent any such use occurred, which use Answering Defendant denies but here assumes merely for the sake of argument.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Willful Infringement)

28. Plaintiffs' claims for relief are barred in whole or in part because any use by Answering Defendant, which use Answering Defendant denies but here assumes merely for the sake of argument, was not willful.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Estoppel)

29. Plaintiffs' action is barred by Plaintiffs' own conduct and actions, which amount to and constitute an estoppel of the claims made by them in their Complaint.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Waiver)

30. Plaintiffs' action is barred by Plaintiffs' own conduct and actions, which amount to and constitute a waiver of any right or rights Plaintiffs might have had in relation to the matters alleged in the Complaint.

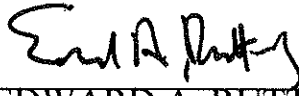
WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant AVRIL LAVIGNE prays as follows:

1. That the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice and that Plaintiffs take nothing herein;

2. That Answering Defendant be awarded her costs of suit, including her reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in defense of this action; and

1 3. That Answering Defendant be awarded such other and further
2 relief as the Court may deem just and proper.
3
4

5
6 DATED: July 26, 2007



EDWARD A. RUTTENBERG
LEOPOLD, PETRICH & SMITH
A Professional Corporation
Attorneys for Defendant
AVRIL LAVIGNE

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is **2049 Century Park East, Suite 3110, Los Angeles, California 90067-3274.**

On July 27, 2007, I served the foregoing document described as **ANSWER TO COMPLAINT BY DEFENDANT AVRIL LAVIGNE** on the interested parties in this action.

☒ by a copy thereof enclosed in (a) sealed envelope(s), addressed as follows:

SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

☒ **BY REGULAR MAIL:** I deposited such envelope in the mail at 2049 Century Park East, Suite 3110, Los Angeles, California 90067-3274. The envelope was mailed with postage thereon fully prepaid.

I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. It is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one (1) day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

☐ **BY FACSIMILE MACHINE:** I transmitted a true copy of said document(s) by facsimile machine, and no error was reported. Said fax transmission(s) were directed as indicated on the service list.

☐ **BY OVERNIGHT MAIL:** I deposited such documents at the Federal Express Drop Box located at 2049 Century Park East, Suite 3110, Los Angeles, California 90067-3274. The envelope was deposited with delivery fees thereon fully prepaid.

☐ **BY PERSONAL SERVICE:** I caused such envelope(s) to be delivered by hand to the above addressee(s).

☐ (State) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

☒ (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the Bar of this Court, at whose direction the service was made. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on July 27, 2007, at Los Angeles, California.

/s/ Kathryn Toyama

SERVICE LIST

David M. Given, Esq.
Phillips, Erlewine & Given LLP
One Embarcadero Suite 2350
San Francisco, California 94111
Tel: (415) 398-0900
Fax: (415) 398-0911

Michael A. Guido, Esq.
Carroll, Guido & Groffman
1790 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10019
Tel: (212) 759-2300
Fax: (212) 759-9556